



Jeb Bush  
Governor

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February 26, 2001

Dr. Robert G. Brooks, Secretary  
Department of Health  
2020 Capital Circle SE, Bin #A00  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1701

Dear Secretary Brooks:

The Florida Board of Dentistry has voted unanimously to pursue statutory authority to have the option of privatizing services which are currently being provided by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) through contract with the Department of Health. The board wishes to conduct a cost-benefit analysis between the services provided through AHCA and similar services provided through a private vendor. The recent report from the Auditor General supports further analysis of the existing mechanisms to provide these services, and we believe that this authority to privatize is consistent with the suggested merger of all the investigative and prosecutorial services under the Department of Health. Recent budgetary concerns, as well as the time involved in pursuing the legislative process have established a sense of urgency in the board's quest of finding solutions to reduce expenditures and improve efficiency.

The board wishes to have the authority to create an alternative mechanism for the delivery of these services which would be available, if needed. Proactively pursuing this authority will give the board an additional tool to facilitate the success of its mandate. We respectfully request your support of the board's endeavor, and we welcome your comments and direction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles L. Ross".

Charles L. Ross, D.D.S.  
Chairman, Board of Dentistry

CLR/lb  
cc: Jeb Bush, Governor